

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

REPORT FROM 16TH MILITARY MEDICAL SERVICES CONFERENCE

Military Training Area Libava was the venue for the 16th Military Medical Services Conference. This event has a long tradition and it became an integral part of military education actions. We can say, that the level of the conference is gradually improving year by year.

The conference was held under the auspices of BG Zoltan Bubenik, MD, director of Military Medical Agency and COL Jiri Paral, MD, PhD, MBA dean of Faculty of Military Health Sciences. The conference could not be organized without cooperation of Military Medicine Agency, Military Hospital Olomouc, Faculty of Military Health Sciences and finally Land Forces HQ.

Military Medical Services Conference was held from April 26 to April 28 2016. The first day high officers and key experts of Czech Armed Forces and Military Medical Service came together. The main guest of this meeting was Deputy Chief of General Staff Lieutenant General Frantisek Maleninsky.

The other guests were the chiefs of individual Departments of Military Medicine Agency, leading officers from General Staff of the Army of the Czech Republic and other important personnel.

The meeting with the representatives of the main conference partners took place afterwards. The general partner was Saab Company, the main partners were Karbox, Moramedica and Marshall, and others were Vakuform, VAVA, Orion diagnostics, Cheiron and OMS Medi.

This meeting was opened by Lieutenant General Frantisek Maleninsky. He emphasized the need to modernize the military medical equipment. He praised the work of military medics and expressed support for the development of Military Medical Services. The speech of Lieutenant General Frantisek Maleninsky was followed by the speech of Brigadier General Zoltan Bubenik and COL Petr Kral MD, who spoke about the future of Military Medical Service and the work of all members of this service.



Figure 1. BG Zoltan Bubenik, MD, director of Military Medical Agency, opened the conference.



Figure 2. Civilian colleagues attended the conference too.

Very important part of this meeting was a presentation of products for potential purchase of new medic equipment. A wide range of defense industry products was shown. It was possible to see material and solution for all levels of patient evacuation system, for Role I and field hospital Role II-III construction, individual paramedic equipment and special medic device. It was great inspiration for potential modernization of Military Healthcare.

This part of conference was finished by free discussion of all members of this high level assemblage.

Vocational part of conference started next day. Opening speech was made by Lieutenant General Frantisek Maleninsky. BG Zoltan Bubenik, MD continued with his own presentation. He outlined possible future of Military Medicine Agency. He was followed by COL Michal Plodr MD, PhD, MBA from Faculty of Military Sciences with his presentation about the actual status of new military medics and doctors' school preparation.

Next part of the conference was sign in strategic management of Military Health Service in Czech and

Slovak Republic. As the guests were lectured gen. Petr Mikulanka, COL Petr Kral MD., and COL Vladimir Lengvasky MD., MPH.

The conference continued by the section with main theme "migration". The speakers were the president of Czech Red Cross Dr. Marek Jukl, PhD, director of Military Veterinary Institute COL Vladimir Zakovcik, MD, Antonin Dvorak, MD from Ministry of Internal Affairs and COL Marek Novy, director of Operation Psychology Department. The next part theme was "Experience with humanitarian missions". There were following lectures: director of Institute of Aviation Medicine Petr Chmatal, MD, LTC Milos Bohonek, MD from Central Military Hospital Stresovice and MAJ Ludek Hana MD, which presented the foreign exercise "Bled", in Slovenia. Experience from foreign mission was interestingly presented by LTC Josef Roubal MD, LTC Radek Uher, MD, and finally Ivo Kasparek, MD.

The next day of the conference were covered by the active health professionals in practice and management. COL Milan Kovarik, MD presented the work of Air MEDEVAC crews. The experience



Figure 3. Demonstration of products and special material for military use.

from EU NAVFOR mission was presented by COL Hynek Schwach PhD and Lt. David Samal. The problems of nursing were covered by Dr. Hofstetrova – Knotkova from Ministry of Health and Head Nurse of Military Medicine Agency, MAJ Hana Kodouskova.

COL Richard Kraus, MD together with Roman Blamar, MD, and COL Roman Placek, MD presented the recruitment management of new soldiers, relating health problems and special medical work at this issue. All of these specialists are from Ministry of Defence – Agency of Military Health Care. This information was valid from doctors at primary care.

We all were so pleased by the fact that Petr Šebek MD, from “Doctors without Borders” accepted the invitation to the conference. His presentation was highlight of the conference. The audience could get to know how non military medics on foreign missions function and compare their work with work of military field medical teams. This lecture raised the level of the conference on next degree.

At the very end of the conference there was a presentation of CAPT Dr. Jaroslav Zdara from Faculty of Military Health Sciences. His speech focused on the issue of Hybrid Warfare. Finally LTC Tomas HALAJCUK from Division of Support, Military Medical Department presented the project of electronic system for better providing of medical support in the field.

We can conclude that the level of the conference has an upward character. Thanks to hard work of the organization team it was possible to create the action that was focused on wide audience. In auditorium there were nurses, medics, doctors and other types of workers in Military Health Care system. This year the number of the listeners was 230. Overall, the conference was attended by 250 people. This number is binding to continue with this meaningful work and create the next annual conference even better than this one.



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